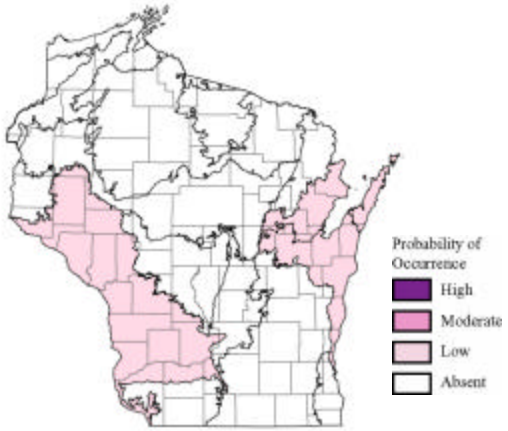
Skipjack Herring (*Alosa chrysochloris*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	5
State threats:	NA
State population trend:	2
Global abundance:	3
Global distribution:	4
Global threats:	3
Global population trend:	3
Mean Risk Score:	3.3**
Area of importance:	1

* Please see the Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries (Section 3.1.1) for definitions of criteria and scores.
** Based on fewer than the standard 7 criteria.



Ecological Landscape Associations
Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape -community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Lake Michigan
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Warmwater rivers
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Lake Michigan
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Warmwater rivers
Western Coulee and Ridges	Warmwater rivers

Threats and Issues

- Dams without fishways block upstream spawning migrations of this species. The presence of dams has apparently lead to the extirpation of this species from most of upper Mississippi system.
- Information is lacking on the life cycle requirements of this species.
- Lock-and-dam structures aiding commercial navigation on the Mississippi River hinder upstream migration of skipjacks during early spring. Few manage to get upstream since they are unable to negotiate the dams or to use bypassing canals.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Construction of fishways at dams on the Mississippi River are needed to allow access to upstream habitats.
- More information is needed on the life cycle of this species, including how much unimpeded water is needed to meet successful living and spawning requirements.
- The **elephant-ear and ebonyshell mussels** are also Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Because the juvenile stages of these two mussel species use skip jack herrings as a host, actions taken to preserve the skipjack herring may also aid conservation of these mussel populations.